

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: I said round about the Hirakud island.

SHRI B. RATH: Is he aware that the workers at Hirakud are actually complaining of want of water?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: I am talking of places round about Hirakud."

INDIAN NATIONALS IN THE U.S.S.R.

*639. SHRI RAHMATH-ULLAH Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian nationals in the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics; and

(b) whether there are any restrictions on the movement of Indian nationals in the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY TO THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON): (a) Government do not have exact information. It is understood that the number is * very small;

(b) There are restrictions on the movements of foreigners, including Indians, in the Soviet Union. These restrictions apply mainly to personnel of diplomatic missions, but are relaxed in some cases.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Are there similar restrictions placed on Russians in India?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: There are no restrictions.

PROP. G. RANG A: May I know whether these restrictions are relaxed for all the members of our diplomatic corps or in the case of other Indians also?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: I have already pointed out that there are very few Indians there. As far as our information goes, only two are in Moscow.

PROP. G. RANG A: May I know in the case of which of the members of

our diplomatic corps are these restrictions relaxed?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: There are no relaxations for individual members, but occasionally there are relaxations to the head of the Mission. It is an occasional relaxation.

INDIANS IN KENYA

♦640. SHRI B. RATH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the present troubles in Kenya are being attempted to be exploited by the local European community for an attack on the Indian residents in Kenya;

(b) whether it is a fact that reports in the 'London Press' accuse the Indians to be the brain behind the so called "Mau Mau" trouble; and

(c) if so, what steps Government are taking to safeguard the interests of the Indians in Kenya?

THE PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU) : (a) The Government of India are aware that a section of the local European community in Kenya have made various charges against Indians in Kenya.

(b) Some such report has appeared in some Kenya newspapers. Government are not aware of newspapers in London publishing such reports.

(c) As far as the Government of India are aware, the interests of the local Indian community have not been adversely affected by this campaign. Government are carefully watching the situation and will take such steps as may be considered necessary.

SHRI B. RATH: Is it a fact that the Nairobi correspondent of the London Sunday Despatch reported that an Indian was the brain behind the Mau Mau movement in Kenya?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: I regret I do not read the Sunday Despatch.